

and deal with the problem in the same successful manner as national, state and municipal authorities have dealt with the contagions which everywhere, in former years and to-day, follow the march of commerce and transportation, whether by sea or land?

Remembering all the forces, political, commercial and social, which are ever and continually at work, the rapidly vanishing elements of distance and time, and the equally increasing approximation of the nations of the world and all human interests, it is apparent to everyone who thinks at all deeply on the subject that the latter is the only possible position. Assume the possibility of exclusion, and we behold whole fleets disappearing from the ocean almost as suddenly as that ill-fated Russian squadron in the Sea of Japan. Recently a but little susceptible people showed their power to hit back by a wholly defensible boycott, and railway magnates and other generals of commerce cry out against laws which this nation has made, and sea-board cities, which once cried "Exclude!" are now quaking as if a foreign enemy were threatening their commerce. Without further illustration, it must be apparent that the only possible position is to regulate.

Never before in the history of the world, unless when Attila's hordes poured down upon a helpless Europe, have more than a million people been transferred in a single year from one continent to another, and of all the marvels perhaps the greatest is that these have come from countries the most separated in distance, nationality, language and civilization, without the transmission of scarcely a case of any of those diseases which cause epidemics. At any rate, we can say, if such cases came, so quickly and thoroughly were they dealt with that no epidemics have resulted therefrom. We have only to compare this with the melancholy and repeated stories of the first seventy-five years of the last century, when immigration had not reached a quarter of its present proportion, in order that the members of this Association may justly take pride to themselves and say, "*Quorum sum magna pars.*" This Association, starting as it did in those now distant early days, thought then only of smallpox, cholera, typhus and yellow fever; now, with such problems solved, it naturally, and indeed is forced, to turn and deal with other problems created in the hundreds of civic centres, the outgrowth of a hundred years of immigration. Just as society has become more complex, so have its public health problems become more difficult. To England these have been present and pressing for fifty years; to the cities of this continent they are the outgrowth of twenty-five. Yet England has never had the problem of our great cities. During the past twenty years the immigration of foreigners to England has averaged probably 100,000 annually, but probably not more than half that remained. Thus an old, well-organized